

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-02 ISO-00 /005 R

66604

DRAFTED BY S/NM:HRWELLMAN:BB

11/19/73 EXT. 28692

APPROVED BY S/NM:HRWELLMAN

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R 191950Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 226498

FOLLOWING SENT MEXICO FROM SECSTATE WASHDC 16 NOV 73:

QUOTE UNCLAS STATE 226498

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MX, SNAR

SUBJECT: WASH STAR NEWS ON MEXICAN HEROIN IN US

1. WASHINGTON STAR NEWS CARRIED STORY NOV. 15 BY ORR KELLY CITING INTERVIEW WITH DEA ADMINISTRATOR JOHN BARTELS THAT MEXICAN HEROIN, PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN ON EAST COAST, HAD RECENTLY BEEN DETECTED THROUGHOUT THE EASTERN STATES. ARTICLE SAID NO MEXICAN HEROIN WAS ON THE EAST COAST AS RECENTLY AS ONE YEAR AGO, BUT BY MID-1973 IT WAS BEING FOUND NATIONWIDE. OF ALL HEROIN PICKED UP, 54.9 PERCENT WAS BROWN, IN CONTRAST TO 28.3 PERCENT NATIONWIDE A YEAR AGO.

2. ARTICLE ALSO GAVE PERCENT OF BROWN HEROIN NATIONWIDE AS 8 IN FY 72, 37.1 IN FY 73, AND MORE THAN 50 BY END OF FY 73.

3. INCREASE WAS ATTRIBUTED IN PART TO SUCCESSFUL CRACK-DOWN ON WHITE HEROIN SOURCES.

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4. ARTICLE QUOTED BARTELS THAT US OFFICIALS WERE WORKING

WITH MEXICAN OFFICIALS IN AN EFFORT TO CONTROL THE FLOW OF
BROWN HEROIN, BUT THE LONG BORDER BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES
COMPLICATES THE TASK. RUSH UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE226498
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HRWELLMAN:BB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731124/aaaaargm.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SNM
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04-Feb-2002 by elbezeff>; APPROVED <14 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <14 MAR 2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WASH STAR NEWS ON MEXICAN HEROIN IN US
TAGS: SNAR, MX
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005